

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 177707 TOSEC 080070
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 PA-01 HA-05 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SP-02 PM-05 ICAE-00 L-03
OC-06 IO-13 SS-15 /073 R

DRAFTED BY EUR;SOV;LWILLEMS:REH
APPROVED BY EUR;WHLUERS
EUR;SOV - SMCCALL
PA/PRS - CSHAPIRO
HA - CBRODY
S/S-O - RCASTRODELE
-----006950 132328Z /75
O 132304Z JUL 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 177707 TOSEC 080070

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SHUM, CSCE

SUBJECT: PROPOSED DEPARTMENT STATEMENT ON SOVIET TRIALS

REF: SECTO 8032

1. HAVING SEEN REFTEL WE ASSUME SECRETARY'S PARTY WILL
DRAFT AND RELEASE STATEMENT IN SECRETARY'S NAME WHEN
SHCHARANSKIY SENTENCE IS ANNOUNCED. WITH SECRETARY'S
APPROVAL WE WOULD PLAN TO RELEASE DEPARTMENT STATEMENT ABOUT
ALL THREE HELSINKI MONITORING CASES (INCLUDING LITHUANIAN
PETKUS WHO RECEIVED 10 YEARS IMPRISONMENT JULY 12). FOLLOW-
ING IS SUGGESTED STATEMENT FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN:

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2. "ALL AMERICANS AND PEOPLE OF GOODWILL EVERYWHERE ARE
SADDENED AND APPALLED BY THE SENTENCING OF ANATOLIY
SHCHARANSKIY, ALEKSANDR GINZBURG AND VIKTORAS PETKUS,
THREE COURAGEOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS WHO HAVE BEEN PER-
SECUTED AND ARE NOW TO BE SUBJECTED TO HARSH PUNISHMENT FOR
CALLING UPON THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO LIVE UP TO THE OBLIGA-
TIONS IT UNDERTOOK WHEN IT SIGNED THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT.

THE THREE REMAIN INNOCENT BEFORE THE COURT OF WORLD OPINION,
HOWEVER, AND OUR GOVERNMENT WILL NOT FORGET THEM OR THEIR
WELLBEING." CHRISTOPHER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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